

Intimations

We are informed that the new Chinese 5% Sterling Loan will probably be issued in London on the 31st March, closing on the 1st April. The price is 102. The Loan will be insured at the Bank of England.

The ricksha coolies are generally considered a great nuisance, and a difficult fellow to place in regard to fare, but everybody will admit that in a case settled at the Magistracy today the coolie was fully deserving of his half-dollar. Zafiro Manah, cook of the Spanish gunboat Manila, engaged a ricksha near the parade ground, and was driven to New Padder's Wharf. The coolie then asked for his legal fare of 10 cents, which was refused. On the coolie demanding the money, the Spaniard drew a knife and threatened to stab him. A constable, however, arrested the coolie and took him to the Station. At the Magistracy today, Mr. T. Sorombe Smith ordered prisoner to pay 50 cents to the coolie and fined him \$9.50, with the alternative of imprisonment for twenty-one days.

The Bangkok Times advocates quarantine against Hongkong to prevent the importation of plague into the Siam capital. We are disappointed at the attitude of our contemporary, and, in spite of the solitary imported case into Singapore, we are inclined to believe there is little danger of infection being carried from port to port. At any rate, Bangkok is needlessly anxious since the plague is not epidemic in Hongkong, and ought not to be placed under quarantine restrictions, when Japan and various ports between Japan and Siam are allowed to go free when cholera is raging in far more alarming proportions than plague is in Hongkong. This is how our Bangkok contemporary concludes a leading article on the subject:—"This suggests the possibility of Bangkok getting one or more cases, and passing on the germs to other places in communication with us. It also raises the question: What steps are the local authorities taking to prevent such a calamity? On former occasions we have had quarantine regulations enforced and enjoyed immunity; is the Government going to follow its usual course, or to trust to luck. It is undisputed that quarantine is a great drawback to trade; but a plague visitation would be still greater, as the experience of Hongkong has proved. Bangkok owes it to itself to guard against the introduction of this fell disease; and its duty towards other ports endeavouring to protect themselves is just as imperative. No time ought to be lost in putting into force the regulations previously employed against all vessels coming from north of the Gulf, even though they be not infected against those from Singapore, in recognition of the care exercised there."

Now that the question of the extension of French justice to the Annamites is being raised, *L'Indo-Chine Française* has an article discussing the merits of British procedure as applied to India, a system which is described as a happy compromise between the entire abandonment of native jurisdiction administered by local judges and the complete overruling of that justice by European judges ignorant of many of the little points of local usage. This system has, says our contemporary, withstood the test of time, and possibly we shall do well to borrow largely from it whenever we see fit to reorganize the magistracy of Tonkin.—*Singapore Free Press*.

We regret to learn (says the *Kobe Chronicle*) from Père Chateau that Monseigneur Elmi Vasselon, Bishop of Osaka, expired suddenly on Saturday evening at 8 o'clock. The Bishop, just previously to the application to which he was seized, had been giving instruction to a young Father in Japanese and complained of uneasiness in the head, so much so that he abruptly terminated the lesson. Shortly after the young Father had retired to his room, the Bishop fell, and returned to his assistants. It was then about half-past six, and the Bishop passed away at eight o'clock. The deceased was born at Oropaise, in the Department of Haute Loire, and was only 42 years of age. He came to Japan in 1877 as a missionary, and laboured in the interior, principally in the provinces of Aomori and Sendai, and was afterwards appointed to Kyoto, and subsequently to the Bishopric of Osaka, so that the Bishop was fairly well known in the country. Though not a very strong man, there had been no suspicion among the Japanese that his would be so painfully sudden.

It is nothing Professor A. C. Nicholson's "Treasures on Money" (A. C. Black), the Standard says: It was emphatic recognition, as well as provoked healthy controversy, in financial circles, on its first appearance eight years ago, and we are not surprised to find that so lucid, as well as capable, an exposition has passed into a third edition. It is, perhaps, only necessary to point out that the present issue is much more than a reprint, since the scope of the original essay has been expanded in order to deal with the result upon industry and trade of recent mining operations in gold and silver. Dr. Nicholson lays stress on the fact that we need to ascertain whether the "quantity theory" of money is capable of being reconciled with the great increase in the production of gold, and the consequent accumulation of specie in the Bank of England. He contends that there is a sufficient quantity of gold to support a higher level of prices, and he argues that one of the chief reasons why this does not actually follow is the continued depreciation of silver. It is, I think, largely owing to this cause that the recent gold discoveries have not had the same stimulating effects upon trade as the discoveries about the middle of this century in California and Australia. This is, of course, a large question, and one over which economists differ, and it is impossible here to discuss the interaction of gold and silver on prices, the problem of the rate of exchange, and the advantages and disadvantages of bi-metallicism. Dr. Nicholson has wisely omitted from this edition the essays on Living Capital, and the relative strength of Capital and Labour, which were merely suitable to a book that otherwise devoted exclusively to problems of finance.

W. Robertson & Co.'s Planes are guaranteed for the climate. Planes Assembled equal to any.

CHINA SUGAR REFINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

The eighteenth annual general meeting of the China Sugar Refining Company, Limited, was held at the offices of the General Agents (Messrs Jardine Matheson and Co.) today. Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving presided. The other gentlemen present were:—Hon. E. R. Bellios, Messrs F. A. Gomer, D. R. Sasseon, St. C. Michaelson, C. S. Sharp (Consulting Committee), Ho Tung, R. G. Wilcox, Ho Fook, J. Barton, McGregor Forbes, K. Ross, W. A. Crickshaw, W. J. Gresson, G. Murray Bain, G. Cox, P. McBurn, F. Henderson, R. Ingalls, and A. Onaitis.

The notice calling the meeting was read. The Chairman said—Gentlemen, with your permission I propose to treat the Report and Accounts as read. It is a matter of great regret to the Consulting Committee that the Report now before you is so unsatisfactory. The unfortunate result of last year's operations was due to a combination of adverse circumstances such as has been unknown in the previous history of the Refinery and which it is hoped will not again have to be encountered collectively. A perusal of the Report will have informed you of the principal causes which led to the loss on working, but with reference to two of them, viz: the enhanced full-ton cost of raw sugar owing to the fall in exchange and the loss on foreign contracts for Java sugar, I should like to say a few words in further explanation. With regard to exchange you are aware that in the beginning of 1895 rates fell to the very low level of 1/11 per dollar and that at a time when the Refinery had to take delivery of and pay for its raw sugar at the rate of 1/11 per dollar, which was increased by the decline in the price of sugar all over the world to a point very considerably below those at which the larger portion of the Company's purchases of Java sugar were made. The Refinery depends upon the Java crop for its principal supplies, and it has been the practice of the Company, in common with other buyers, to contract some considerable time ahead for its requirements in order to guard against the risk of being undersupplied. This policy, which is generally a wise one, in addition to being almost necessary, is shown by the satisfactory margins on sales during past years up to the end of 1894, which have enabled the Company to declare large dividends than could otherwise have been earned. The handsome figure of 25 per cent, was materially assisted by the Refinery's forward contracts. In spite of the unfortunate experience of 1895 it is not deemed expedient to depart from a system which prior to that year has given good results, and the Refinery's Consulting Committee the General Agents have made contracts for the 1896 Java crop, which, as the market at present stands, should improve the position of this year. I may mention in this connection that latest advice from Java announces that three-fourths of the Java crop has been already sold, and you will thus readily understand how we are compelled to make forward contracts for sugar, some of which may not pass through our Refinery until many months after purchase. Another source of disappointment has been the Company's sales in America. These, usually a source of profit, were attended during 1895 by difficulties arising from the arbitrary nature of the United States Tariff and an attempt on the part of The American Sugar Trust to drive the Hongkong Refiners out of the field. The importance of these sales to the market which constitutes one of our regular outlets and to supply which we are provided with specially adapted machinery must be apparent to you all. I am pleased to say that an improvement in the situation is this year reported by the sales in America. Agents, able and energetic gentlemen, combined with a short water supply, and the curtailment of demand for the Refinery's products consequent on the war between China and Japan prevented the Company from keeping in its regular markets except at a loss, and it was only as the year drew to a close that the market began to brighten, and this however to influence the result of our working for the period under review. This improvement, I am pleased to say, has so far continued. At the last Annual Meeting of the Company the Chairman mentioned that a suitable site for a reservoir for the water required for the operations upon it had been begun. When in July last it became evident that results of the year's working would be very unsatisfactory, rendering every economy in expenditure more than ever essential, it was decided to stop the work in progress and avail of a chance which presented itself of obtaining a site for a reservoir, a more limited supply than would have been afforded by the proposed reservoir but still sufficient for the anticipated needs of the Refinery for the time being even during the winter months, and at a comparatively smaller cost, as the figures given in the report will show. Under these circumstances I trust you will approve of the decision of the General Agents and Consulting Committee to suspend operations under the larger scheme, and of their recommendation to write back to credit and Profit and Loss account the sum of \$143,000 previously appropriated for the purpose. Before the adoption of the Report and Accounts, I shall be pleased to answer any questions that may be put.

There being no question the Chairman moved the adoption of the report. Mr. Wilcox—I beg to second the adoption of the report and Accounts. I am doing so with a full knowledge of the facts, and I am sure that the shareholders will be satisfied with the result. The Chairman thanked the General Managers for their thanks for the handsome sales they have relinquished in their commission. I trust the necessity for such a sacrifice will not occur again, and that next year the Chairman will have the most pleasing announcement to make that the dividend warrants will be issued. Unanimously carried.

Mr. Coutts proposed that the Consulting Committee be re-elected for the ensuing year. Mr. Wilcox had pleasure in seconding. Agreed.

Mr. Cox proposed that Messrs Thomas Arnold and Fullerton Henderson be re-elected auditors for the ensuing year. Mr. Ho Tung seconded. Carried unanimously.

The Chairman then closed the business of the meeting gentlemen. I thank you for your attendance.

We are informed that the King has promised to order two new gunboats for the Siam Navy, and that these vessels are to be constructed in Europe—Belgium it is alleged—to the special requirements for service in this country, and with a view to future opportunities in Siam waters. We may add that in well-informed circles little credence is placed in these reports, owing to the fact that new gunboats have been promised for the last fifteen years. The present steam yachts in use are said to be almost antique, and it is considered dangerous to send several of them to the Malay States.—*Singapore Free Press*.

LUZON SUGAR REFINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

The fourteenth ordinary annual meeting of the Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited, was held at the offices of the General Managers (Messrs Jardine Matheson and Co.) today. Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving presided. The others present were:—Messrs J. H. Lewis, R. Cooke (Consulting Committee), Hon. E. R. Bellios, Messrs J. R. Michael, W. J. Gresson, W. A. Crickshaw, T. Arnold, J. H. Cox, Ho Tung, J. McGregor Forbes, G. H. Potts, Ho Fook, and J. Barton.

The notice calling the meeting was read. The Chairman said—Gentlemen, the report having been in your hands since the beginning of last week, I propose with your consent to treat it as read. You are aware that the year 1895 was one of great depression in the Sugar trade all over the world, and that in consequence prices remained at a very low level. The Company has, however, been fortunate by virtue of its being in close touch with the Spanish Market, where a steady demand continued throughout the year, and this constant employment was provided for the Refinery although at rates which only allowed of a moderate margin of profit. You will see from reference to the account on the 31st December last there was the sum of \$12,700.97 in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank in Manila on current account at the credit of the Refinery, whilst liabilities to the General Agents on the same date amounted to \$149,553.51. The money in the hands of the Bank was the result of the Refinery's sales during the latter months of the year, namely, from 3 to 5 per cent, premium, and I am pleased to say that the Company has gained considerably by the delay, the money having since been remitted at rates varying from 10 to 13 per cent, premium and applied to the reduction of the advances by the General Agents. The General Agents now propose to close the advance account by transferring the amount at debit to their current account, a course which, in view of improved financial position, will do but commend itself to you. I would mention that in accordance with the wishes expressed by a shareholder at the Annual Meeting of the Company, we obtained an independent certificate of the stocks of raw and refined sugar at Malacca, on 31st December last. A new line of steamers has recently commenced to run monthly between Manila and Spanish ports, for which Messrs Smith, Bell & Co. are Agents in Manila, and the more frequent facilities thus afforded for direct shipments will enable our Company to meet more promptly and with greater regularity the demand for refined sugar on the Spanish market. With regard to prospects for the present year, I am glad to say that the demand for Spain continues fair, and although the price of our Raw Material is higher, an advance has also been established in Refined. Before closing I desire on behalf of the Consulting Committee and General Agents to express their appreciation of the satisfactory management by the Manila Agents of the Company's business during the past year. I shall be pleased to answer any questions shareholders may desire to ask before moving the adoption of the Report and Accounts.

There being no questions, the Chairman moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. J. H. Cox seconded, and congratulated the shareholders on the excellent report submitted to them. Carried unanimously.

Hon. E. R. Bellios had much pleasure in proposing that Messrs B. Cooke and J. H. Lewis be re-elected to the Consulting Committee for the ensuing year. Mr. Ho Tung seconded.

Carried unanimously. Mr. Ho Tung proposed that Mr. Thomas Arnold be re-elected auditor. Mr. G. H. Potts seconded.

Carried unanimously. The Chairman—The dividend warrants will be issued to-morrow. I have to thank you, gentlemen, for your attendance.

It is stated that Trincomalee will not long continue to be a naval station. As soon as the dockyard at Colombo is completed it will become the headquarters, both naval and military, for the forces employed on the East Indian Station.

According to an official telegram received by the Netherlands-Latin Government from Abohon, a patrol of 70 men from Angkor (Acheen-Pring) entered into the Acheen-Pring district. The Dutch troops lost 9 killed, including a sergeant and a corporal, and 29 wounded. The Acheen lost six panglans, and 37 killed and severely wounded.

A DANING fraud was recently committed on one of the banks in Edinburgh. A man lodged in current account £1500, and in the course of a week or so lifted, by cheque, some to the amount of £480, thus leaving £1020 in the hands of the bank. The other day he entered the bank, wrote out a cheque for the sum of £1020, and handed it to the cheque clerk. An examination of the ledger showed a sum of £1020 on the credit side, and, initiated in the usual way, the cheque was returned to the drawer for presentation to the teller. Between the time of receiving it from the clerk and presenting it to the teller the figure £1 was changed to 4, and the word "one" was altered to "four" by simply placing an "e" before the "four" (written with an "o" on it). On presenting the altered document to the teller, the man received £4800.

This proposed extension of the Moji Iron Works has received the support of many prominent capitalists in Tokyo and Osaka and it has been decided to increase the capital to one million yen. All the shares have been subscribed for. The extension of the works will be chiefly in the ship-building department. Six hundred thousand yen of capital authorized is to be used for the construction of two shipbuilding docks, one hundred thousand yen for the extension of the machine shop, and another hundred thousand yen for adding to the existing iron works, the balance of two hundred thousand yen being used for other business purposes. One of the docks to be constructed will be 620 feet long, 110 feet wide, and 24 feet deep and the other 800 feet long, 24 feet wide, and 10 feet deep. The vessels of 1,000 tons, and above can be accommodated. Some fifteen small steamers under 100 tons have been constructed by the Moji Iron Works.—*Japan Advertiser*.

Althorp Planes, Art Models, very fine, 1/2000 scale, 1/2000 scale, and all excellent, 1/2000 scale.—*W. Robertson & Co.*

SECOND CONCERT OF THE PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.

The Hongkong Philharmonic Society gave their second concert last night in St. George's Hall to a fairly well-filled house. Amongst those present were H.E. Sir Wm. Robinson, President of the Society. In the first part of the programme, the orchestra led off with "Der Freischütz," and was followed by Mr. Charles Lamont, who sang: "My Queen" in his usually sympathetic style. Mrs. Craddock next gave an admirable rendering of "The Old Country," which gave place to one of Commander Grafton's favourite flute solos. "Good-night, Beloved," a quartet by Mrs. Craddock, Mrs. Cox, Mr. Maister, and Mr. Crow, was to our mind, the vocal gem of the evening, and it was accordingly re-demanded. The Orchestra closed the first part by playing E. Gernsey's Dance Suite from "Incidental Music to Henry VIII., a 'Morris Dance' b 'Shepherd's Dance.' It is hardly too much to say that this was one of the best specimens of amateur orchestration we have lately in this Colony, and Mr. G. Lamont deserves great credit for conducting so successful a combination. The spirit thrown into those pieces and the perfect time kept throughout were worthy of all praise. We give below the names of the ladies and gentlemen who composed the orchestra.

Part II consisted of the cantata "The Song of Miriam" (Schubert), with a chorus of about fifty performers. As to the selection of this piece, some might have had objections, as the music is a great strain, especially upon the sopranos. The concert was musically not quite so strong as they should have been, while the bass voices were ponderous. One more piece would have shown even better results than those of last night. On the whole the performance was really highly creditable to all concerned, and gave genuine pleasure to all lovers of good music, who were fortunate enough to be present. Miss Lamont, as the soprano soloist, was in good voice and, as usual, acquitted herself to the entire satisfaction of all present. Mrs. Brewitt, who undertook the contralto part, had not a very heavy task imposed upon her, but she was in good voice and sang with knowledge and expression. The concert closed with Brahms' "Hungarian Dances," by the orchestra. The Committee are to be congratulated upon this second of their concerts. At one time, in view of the absorption of the public interest by many other entertainments, it was feared the concert would have to be postponed and perhaps given up altogether. The result is one which reflects credit upon all concerned.

The following is the programme:—
1.—Overture: "Der Freischütz," C. M. von Weber.
2.—Song: "My Queen," Mrs. Craddock.
3.—Song: "The Old Country," Mrs. Craddock.
4.—Flute Solo: "Gavotte d'Amour," M. Lamont.
5.—Song: "The Old Country," Mrs. Craddock.
6.—Song: "The Old Country," Mrs. Craddock.
7.—Song: "The Old Country," Mrs. Craddock.
8.—Song: "The Old Country," Mrs. Craddock.
9.—Song: "The Old Country," Mrs. Craddock.
10.—Song: "The Old Country," Mrs. Craddock.

There are rumours that the band, which the natives call "the Eastern Devil's Wall," and foreigners "the Mandarin's Prays," is to be continued from the East of the city westwards towards the Shamone. How much relief may be placed in such rumours, it is difficult to say. One can hardly believe that the present Viceroys will attempt anything so extensive, or in fact, anything at all. If this work were successfully accomplished, and kept clear of stalls and booths, of quack doctors and travelling tinkers, of dead dogs and rotten rubbish, such a wide road would be a boon to all. It would be a splendid way for rickshaws; and furnish an easy means of locomotion from east to west, which would be swift and cheap. If however one may judge from the section already erected by Cheung Chi Tung, the main use of such a road would be to receive and give a home to such things and persons as those above mentioned. Hence the gain to the public would be but small.

The clearing of the Canal progresses but slowly. A beginning however has been made, and one section is comparatively free of boats. Moreover several of the right-hand landing places have been removed, and some dilapidated sheds which were built over the canal, torn down. The mandarin in charge had put out a proclamation at each of the Shamone bridges informing those interested that ten days would be allowed the boat people to find another anchorage. This margin is long past. One supposes however the mandarin, like a coolie, who when he goes to buy a leak for dinner offers two osh, when he knows he will give four, say ten days when they mean twenty, and are glad to get the thing done, if accomplished quietly in thirty.

A case of presentation of Christians is rumoured as having occurred in the 英國 district, in the North of this Province. One of the elders of the Christian community having died, the funeral was conducted with simple Christian rites. When it was known that a Christian was to be buried, a crowd of idlers and ruffians, always in evidence in China, assembled, with the intention of disturbing the party. The crowd at first contented themselves with hooting and cursing. They then threw stones, which fell thick as rain-drops, and finally made a general attack. The result was that the mourners were scattered. The son of the deceased was struck by a stone, and rendered insensible and his skeleton garments covered with blood. Having accomplished their purpose, the rabble dispersed. Hitherto no punishment has been meted out to the guilty, nor protection promised to the innocent. An appeal was made to the local gentry, who only laughed at the tale of error, and considered it a joke. The case was brought before the District Magistrate, who ordered his responsibility by saying that the village was situated on the borders of his District and that the neighbouring official would attend to it. In such cases, many of which never are known to the public, can any one wonder that the Missionaries should ask the Consul to do anything possible to prevent a repetition of such cruelties.

W. Robertson & Co. have 150 Planes for Hire on Monthly Payments, also Planes returned from Hire cheap.

REUTERS' TELEGRAMS.

(SUPPLIED TO THE "CHINA MAIL.")

LONDON, March 25, 1896.

TURKEY AND THE SOUDAN EXPEDITION.

The Porte is irritated against the Khedive and Great Britain because Turkey was not consulted about the Expedition to Dongola. Turkey has appealed to France and Russia to intervene, and has asked for the good offices of Germany. It is believed that this action is due to the counsels of Russia and France.

(From Tientsin Exchange.)

THE ITALIAN CABINET.

Paris, March 11. The Italian Cabinet has been definitely constituted as follows:—
Signor Rodini, President.
General Ricotti, Minister of War.
Admiral Brin, Minister of Marine.
Signor Serravallo, Foreign Affairs.
Signor Brancaccio, Finance.

KASSALA BELEAGUED.

The dervishes have surrounded Kassala in force.

HENRI D'ORLÈANS DECORATED.

Prince Henri d'Orléans has been decorated with the Legion of Honour.

CANTON.

(From Our Correspondent.)

There appears to be little that is new or stirring in Canton or its suburbs. Things move along at the usual rate, and in the usual rules. The city gates are still securely closed at night, and only opened to those who bring the gate-keepers with a considerable sum, and even to these favoured few, I am told, that admittance is granted with apparent reluctance. Whilst the Chinese grumble at and are inclined to resent the comparatively small supervision under which they are placed at night in Hongkong, many in Canton look with jealousy on the freedom of the Hongkongites and speak with no little bitterness of the difficulty of ingress in the city, which obtains here. A few days ago, a few friends, who had dined out in some warming, on returning home at 9 o'clock, found it impossible to enter the city, and were compelled to seek lodgings for the night in a suburban inn. It is not likely that they submit to these restrictions with a contented mind.

There are rumours that the band, which the natives call "the Eastern Devil's Wall," and foreigners "the Mandarin's Prays," is to be continued from the East of the city westwards towards the Shamone. How much relief may be placed in such rumours, it is difficult to say. One can hardly believe that the present Viceroys will attempt anything so extensive, or in fact, anything at all. If this work were successfully accomplished, and kept clear of stalls and booths, of quack doctors and travelling tinkers, of dead dogs and rotten rubbish, such a wide road would be a boon to all. It would be a splendid way for rickshaws; and furnish an easy means of locomotion from east to west, which would be swift and cheap. If however one may judge from the section already erected by Cheung Chi Tung, the main use of such a road would be to receive and give a home to such things and persons as those above mentioned. Hence the gain to the public would be but small.

THE NEW FIRE TARIFFS.

Some one who knows insurance business too well for his peace of mind says that the appended parody, sung at a Newmarket-Tyne smoking concert, is quite as applicable to Hongkong:—
I will sing to you a ditty,
And would ask you for your pity
On a clerk who once was always blithe and gay,
But with Tariffs and with Customs
And a hundred other causes
His hair is showing signs of turning grey.

Chorus:—For the Tariffs complicated,
Takes a mind quite indurated,
All their wonderful varieties to declare;
And some folks you may be sure
When there's anything obscure
Feel inclined to chuck the business in despair.

Only just the other morning
Absolutely without warning,
The new Short's Tariff burst upon my view;
As he scanned the arched pages,
Offering of Insurance Sages,
He muttered 'They're always getting something new.'

By the time he'd grasped its meaning
Up against the counter leaning,
He stood the very picture of despair;
Then with eyes now wildly gleaming
And in tones devoid of meaning,
He babbled 'Tariffs, Tariffs, everywhere.'

Very shortly he was raving
And his arms were wildly waving,
So we took him where he'd never been before;
He requires 'Assistance twenty,'
And they think that means a penny,
For they've chained him to a double iron door.

And now it seems an awful pity
The Fire Office Committee's view;
Should drive a harmless clerk into despair;
So we venture to suggest
That they take a little rest
And devote their time and energy else where.

HAUB.

The following is the Mining Manager's Report for the five weeks ending March 12th, 1896:—

I have the honour to forward you my Report for the five weeks ending the above date. During the period under review all work was suspended by the Chinese employed in the Mines for a week owing to their New Year. I took advantage of this to overhaul machinery and do any necessary repairs in the different shafts.

RAUB.

Raub Hole No. 2 Shaft.—The main level going down at 220 feet has been extended 29 feet making the total distance from the cross-cut 918 feet. The level formation still continues about 3' wide, but shows no gold. No work has been done in the main Drive going north since the Chinese New Year. The uprise to meet the mine has been broken through to the latter at 32 feet and has unwatered it and given good ventilation. A shoot has been put in the stopping commenced on the main ore shoot in the 12th level, and work on the small ore shoot in the 12th level has been carried on. The winze on the east leader in level 23 feet; it is hardly so good as in the level but still carries fair gold. I have stopped sinking for the present as the air is very bad, even with a fan constantly at work it was almost impossible to keep lights burning. The drive going in on the west leader is in 36 feet. A good deal of water is coming out of the face and as the leader is very small and not so good I have stopped it, and am now stopping over the back of the drive both on this and the one going east, both of which carry fair gold. Bukit Komun.—The main engine shaft is now sunk the required depth of 103 ft. below the 145 ft. level. I have started to cut the pit at 245 ft. This gives 100 ft. of back to work below the No. 1 level. I expect to have all the work required in opening out and new 145' pump in operation and the level out during the coming month. No. 1 level. In the south end of the main drive the level continues to look as well as ever, the full width of the drive being in crushing stuff which shows fair gold. In the leading stop the level is fully 16 feet and shows fair good all through it. I am pleased to report a very favourable result in the work in working. In re-climbing the level ore was out in the hanging wall and a short-circuit was driven to see the width of it. We are 18 ft. in the level and not yet through it; the stone looks very well. The ground is very soft and treacherous and is making a lot of water in the face, great care has to be taken in working it. It appears where the level made pinch in the main level it has been thrown over to the east into the hanging wall. There is no change to report in the stopes which still continue to show large bodies of ore.

Western Lode.—Stoping is being carried on as usual. The ore body continues to extend south far beyond the limits of work. I expected it to go and carries fair gold. A small air shaft is being sunk as well as ever, the full width of the drive being in crushing stuff which shows fair gold. In the leading stop the level is fully 16 feet and shows fair good all through it. I am pleased to report a very favourable result in the work in working. In re-climbing the level ore was out in the hanging wall and a short-circuit was driven to see the width of it. We are 18 ft. in the level and not yet through it; the stone looks very well. The ground is very soft and treacherous and is making a lot of water in the face, great care has to be taken in working it. It appears where the level made pinch in the main level it has been thrown over to the east into the hanging wall. There is no change to report in the stopes which still continue to show large bodies of ore.

Year good progress has been with sinking the engine shaft which is now down between 60 and 70 feet. The ground continues very favourable for sinking, but making a good deal of water.

Battery.—A general clean up took place on the 1st inst. This was done to clear the Company's financial year. From January 7th to February 22nd 2,202 tons of ore were crushed for a yield of 1,119 oz. 5 dwts. 0 grs. melted gold, being an average of 10 dwts. 2 grs. per ton, being 6 grains per ton above the January clean up. The proportion of ore crushed from the different mines being as follows: Bukit Komun 1,812 tons; Western Lode 318 and Raub Hole 74, total 2,202 tons. Crushing was resumed on the afternoon of the 22nd inst. and has been continuous since.

W. BERRY,
Mining Manager.

Says the Vienna correspondent of the Times:—If I were to be asked what is the present basis of Austria's Eastern policy I should have no hesitation in describing it as being the maintenance of the status quo. Should that be disturbed Austria might deem it advisable to take certain measures of precaution. There is, however, no violation of the status quo which would unquestionably be regarded by Austria as a casus belli—namely, any attempt on the part of Russia to obtain possession of Constantinople. That is precisely the point at which the Eastern policy of Austria-Hungary and that of Great Britain coincide. Until therefore, there are unmistakable and manifest signs that Russia is preparing a fresh advance towards the Bosphorus, few things that are likely to happen in the Balkan Peninsula will draw the Dual Monarchy out of its vigilant reserve. The Minor Balkan States are all of them aware that Austria-Hungary entertains no projects of aggression at their expense.

Our Popular Piano, handsome, full-toned, strong, guaranteed, \$325/000.—W. Robertson & Co.

THE NEW FIRE TARIFFS.

Some one who knows insurance business too well for his peace of mind says that the appended parody, sung at a Newmarket-Tyne smoking concert, is quite as applicable to Hongkong:—

I will sing to you a ditty,
And would ask you for your pity
On a clerk who once was always blithe and gay,
But with Tariffs and with Customs
And a hundred other causes
His hair is showing signs of turning grey.

Chorus:—For the Tariffs complicated,
Takes a mind quite indurated,
All their wonderful varieties to declare;
And some folks you may be sure
When there's anything obscure
Feel inclined to chuck the business in despair.

Only just the other morning
Absolutely without warning,
The new Short's Tariff burst upon my view;
As he scanned the arched pages,
Offering of Insurance Sages,
He muttered 'They're always getting something new.'

By the time he'd grasped its meaning
Up against the counter leaning,
He stood the very picture of despair;
Then with eyes now wildly gleaming
And in tones devoid of meaning,
He babbled 'Tariffs, Tariffs, everywhere.'

Very shortly he was raving
And his arms were wildly waving,
So we took him where he'd never been before;
He requires 'Assistance twenty,'
And they think that means a penny,
For they've chained him to a double iron door.

And now it seems an awful pity
The Fire Office Committee's view;
Should drive a harmless clerk into despair;
So we venture to suggest
That they take a little rest
And devote their time and energy else where.

HAUB.

The following is the Mining Manager's Report for the five weeks ending March 12th, 1896:—

I have the honour to forward you my Report for the five weeks ending the above date. During the period under review all work was suspended by the Chinese employed in the Mines for a week owing to their New Year. I took advantage of this to overhaul machinery and do any necessary repairs in the different shafts.

RAUB.

Raub Hole No. 2 Shaft.—The main level going down at 220 feet has been extended 29 feet making the total distance from the cross-cut 918 feet. The level formation still continues about 3' wide, but shows no gold. No work has been done in the main Drive going north since the Chinese New Year. The uprise to meet the mine has been broken through to the latter at 32 feet and has unwatered it and given good ventilation. A shoot has been put in the stopping commenced on the main ore shoot in the 12th level, and work on the small ore shoot in the 12th level has been carried on. The winze on the east leader in level 23 feet; it is hardly so good as in the level but still carries fair gold. I have stopped sinking for the present as the air is very bad, even with a fan constantly at work it was almost impossible to keep lights burning. The drive going in on the west leader is in 36 feet. A good deal of water is coming out of the face and as the leader is very small and not so good I have stopped it, and am now stopping over the back of the drive both on this and the one going east, both of which carry fair gold. Bukit Komun.—The main engine shaft is now sunk the required depth of 103 ft. below the 145 ft. level. I have started to cut the pit at 245 ft. This gives 100 ft. of back to work below the No. 1 level. I expect to have all the work required in opening out and new 145' pump in operation and the level out during the coming month. No. 1 level. In the south end of the main drive the level continues to look as well as ever, the full width of the drive being in crushing stuff which shows fair gold. In the leading stop the level is fully 16 feet and shows fair good all through it. I am pleased to report a very favourable result in the work in working. In re-climbing the level ore was out in the hanging wall and a short-circuit was driven to see the width of it. We are 18 ft. in the level and not yet through it; the stone looks very well. The ground is very soft and treacherous and is making a lot of water in the face, great care has to be taken in working it. It appears where the level made pinch in the main level it has been thrown over to the east into the hanging wall. There is no change to report in the stopes which still continue to show large bodies of ore.

Western Lode.—Stoping is being carried on as usual. The ore body continues to extend south far beyond the limits of work. I expected it to go and carries fair gold. A small air shaft is being sunk as well as ever, the full width of the drive being in crushing stuff which shows fair gold. In the leading stop the level is fully 16 feet and shows fair good all through it. I am pleased to report a very favourable result in the work in working. In re-climbing the level ore was out in the hanging wall and a short-circuit was driven to see the width of it. We are 18 ft. in the level and not yet through it; the stone looks very well. The ground is very

To Let.

TO LET.
1ST FLOOR of No. 12, QUEEN'S ROAD
CENTRAL, suitable for OFFICES or
DWELLING ROOMS.
Apply to
Linstead & Davis.
Hongkong, November 30, 1895. 2223

TO LET.
5-ROOMED BUNGALOW 'RHEDA',
BONHAM ROAD.
Apply to
CHINA MERCHANTS' S. N. Co.,
No. 22, PRINCE STREET.
Hongkong, January 25, 1896. 201

TO LET.
(Possession 1st April, 1896).
NO. 1, ALBANY, just above the PUBLIC
GARDENS.
No. 44 UPPER MOSQUE TERRACE,
(corner House).
And
WESTBOURNE VILLA, North.
Apply to
Linstead & Davis.
Hongkong, March 20, 1896. 661

TO LET.
'LARKSPUR', UPPER RICHMOND ROAD.
Seven Rooms and Tennis Lawn.
Apply to
Mr. L. SIMON,
Banque de l'Indo-Chine.
Hongkong, November 5, 1895. 2069

TO LET.
D'WELLING HOUSES—
HOUSES in RIVER TERRACE.
No. 17, LINDSAY TERRACE.
RICHMOND HOUSE, ROBINSON
ROAD—FURNISHED or UNFURNISHED.
'TUSCULUM', MAGAZINE GAR-
DEN.
Apply to
THE HONGKONG LAND INVEST-
MENT & AGENCY CO., LTD.
Hongkong, March 23, 1896. 233

TO LET.
NO. 3, WEST VILLAS.
Apply to
G. C. ANDERSON.
Hongkong, December 4, 1895. 2264

Insurances.

THE MANCHESTER FIRE ASSUR-
ANCE COMPANY.
(ESTABLISHED A.D. 1824).
CAPITAL £2,000,000
TOTAL FUNDS AND RESERVE £2,450,000
NET ANNUAL PREMIUM £757,473

HAVING been appointed AGENTS of
the above Company, we are prepared to
accept EUROPEAN and CHINESE RISKS
at current Rates.
HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, January 1, 1896. 12

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE
INSURANCE COMPANY.
TOTAL FUNDS at 31st DECEMBER, 1894,
£11,071,018 2s. 2d.
Authorized Capital £3,000,000 0/0
Subscribed Capital £2,750,000 0/0
Paid-up Capital £287,500 0/0
Fire Funds £2,410,927 3/4
Revenue Fire Branch £1,546,556 18/7

HAVING been appointed AGENTS of the
above Company, we are prepared to
accept EUROPEAN and CHINESE RISKS
at current Rates.
SHEWAN & Co.,
Agents.
13 July, 1895. 1300

UNION ASSURANCE SOCIETY.
(Instituted in the Reign of Queen Anne
A.D. 1714).
CAPITAL FULLY SUBSCRIBED, £450,000.
CAPITAL PAID UP, £150,000.
TOTAL INVESTED FUNDS EXCEED £2,700,000.
TOTAL ANNUAL INCOME, £280,000.

THE undersigned, having been appointed
AGENTS of the above Society in Hong-
kong, is prepared to issue POLICIES against
FIRE on the usual terms.
HARRY WICKING,
Praya Central.
1421

Intimations.

FURNITURE WAREHOUSE.
LI KWONG LOONG.
Chinese and Art Decorator,
from SHANGHAI, has opened a
FURNITURE STORE
at No. 3, WYNDHAM STREET.
The only shop in Hongkong with this name.
Where HIGH-CLASS FURNITURE of
every description can be made to order in
any design required.
Has been patronised by the Hongkong
Club, Hongkong Hotel, Messrs. A. S.
Watson & Co., Ltd., and other leading
Establishments in the Colony, to whom
reference may be made as to the Superior
Workmanship and Materials of the Furni-
ture, &c., supplied.
Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co. write as
follows:
"We have pleasure in stating that Mr.
LI KWONG LOONG furnished
"the Annex to our Dispensary and
"gave us every satisfaction."
(Sd.) "A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd."
ORDERS punctually attended to and
CHARGES MOST MODERATE.
AN INSPECTION INVITED.
Hongkong, April 13, 1895. 712

WINDSOR HOTEL,
HONGKONG.
THIS ESTABLISHMENT, situated in the
elegant Building known as 'CON-
NAUGHT HOUSE', offers First-Class Ac-
commodation to Residents and Travellers.
Passenger Elevator from Entrance Hall
to each Floor, in charge of experienced
Attendant.
Favourable Arrangements made for
Families and for Monthly or Extended
Periods.
P. BOHM,
Proprietor and Manager.
Hongkong, November 24, 1894. 1907

Shipping.

Steamers.
THE CHINA MUTUAL STEAM
NAVIGATION COMPANY,
LIMITED.
FOR SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, MOJI,
KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.
The Co.'s Steamship
Kintok, Capt. C. de LA PERRELLE,
will be despatched as above
on SATURDAY, the 28th inst., at 3 p.m.
For Freight, etc., apply to
HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, March 27, 1896. 630

**INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION
COMPANY, LIMITED.**
FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND
CALCUTTA.
The Co.'s Steamship
Kintok, Capt. C. de LA PERRELLE,
will be despatched as above
on SATURDAY, the 28th inst., at 3 p.m.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, March 24, 1896. 640

SHELL LINE OF STEAMERS.
FOR LONDON AND HAMBURG.
(Taking Cargo at through rates to COPEN-
HAGEN, STOCKHOLM, NORRKOP-
ING, GÖTEBORG, DANTZIG and
KONIGSBERG, with transshipment
in HAMBURG).
The Co.'s Steamship
Telma, Capt. T. G. Scott, will be
despatched as above on
SATURDAY, the 28th inst., instead of
as previously advertised.
For Freight, apply to
ARNHOLD, KARBURG & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, March 23, 1896. 526

FOR SHANGHAI.
(Taking Cargo & Passengers at through rates
for KINHO, CHEFOO, NEW-
CHANG, TIENTSIN, HANKOW
and Ports on the YANGTZE).
The Co.'s Steamship
Palmed, Capt. J. B. Macmillan, will be
despatched as above on
SATURDAY, the 28th inst., instead of
as previously advertised.
For Freight, apply to
ARNHOLD, KARBURG & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, March 23, 1896. 526

**CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY,
LIMITED.**
FOR KOBE.
The Steamship
Changsha, Capt. Williams, will be
despatched as above on MON-
DAY, the 30th inst.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, March 23, 1896. 635

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.
JAPAN-EUROPE LINE.
STEAM FOR
COLOMBO, BOMBAY, PORT SAID,
LONDON AND ANTWERP.
The Co.'s Steamship
Tea-Maru, Capt. J. B. Macmillan, will be
despatched as above on
WEDNESDAY, the 1st April.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, March 18, 1896. 533

**FOR SINGAPORE, HAYRE AND
HAMBURG.**
(Calling at NAPLES for landing Passengers
if sufficient inducement offers).
(Taking Cargo at through rates to ROTTER-
DAM, LISBON, OPORTO, LONDON,
LIVERPOOL and BREMEN).
The Steamship
Kintok, Capt. T. G. Scott, will be
despatched as above on
WEDNESDAY, the 1st April.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, March 18, 1896. 533

**CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY,
LIMITED.**
FOR CHEFOO AND TIENTSIN.
The Steamship
Kintok, Capt. T. G. Scott, will be
despatched as above on
WEDNESDAY, the 1st April.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, March 18, 1896. 533

GLEN LINE OF STEAM PACKETS.
FOR NEW YORK VIA SUEZ CANAL.
The Steamship
Glenline, Capt. Glenine, will be
despatched as above on
about THURSDAY, the 2nd April.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, March 18, 1896. 670

Shipping.

Steamers.
CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY,
LIMITED.
FOR YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.
The Steamship
Changsha, Capt. Williams, will be
despatched as above on MON-
DAY, the 30th inst.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, March 23, 1896. 630

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.
FOR LONDON VIA SUEZ CANAL.
The Co.'s Steamship
Dardanus, Capt. G. O. O'Connell, will be
despatched as above on
WEDNESDAY, the 1st April.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, March 23, 1896. 637

SHELL LINE OF STEAMERS.
FOR HAYRE AND LONDON.
The Co.'s Steamship
Turbo, Capt. J. Moss, will be
despatched as above on
FRIDAY, the 10th April.
For Freight, apply to
ARNHOLD, KARBURG & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, March 23, 1896. 633

**RICKMERS REGULAR LINE OF
STEAMERS.**
FOR MARSEILLES, BREMEN AND
HAMBURG.
(Taking Cargo at through rates to RED
SEA PORTS, MEDITERRANEAN
and BLACK SEA PORTS).
The Co.'s Steamship
Lorcha, Capt. J. B. Macmillan, will be
despatched as above on
FRIDAY, the 17th April, instead of as pre-
viously advertised.
For Freight, apply to
ARNHOLD, KARBURG & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, March 23, 1896. 509

Sailing Vessels.
FOR SAN FRANCISCO.
The 100 A.T. British Ship
Orlando, Capt. E. J. B. Scott, will be
despatched as above on
SATURDAY, the 28th inst., instead of
as previously advertised.
For Freight, apply to
SHEWAN & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, February 18, 1896. 888

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.
The American Bark
Noyes, Master, will lead here
for the above Port, and will
have quick despatch.
For Freight, apply to
SHEWAN & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, March 3, 1896. 450

**Occidental & Oriental Steam-
Ship Company.**
PAKING CARGO AND PASSENGERS
TO JAPAN, THE UNITED
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Derie (via Nagasaki, Kobe, Inland Sea and Yokohama)..... WEDNESDAY, April 8, at noon.
Belgia (via Nagasaki, Kobe, Inland Sea and Yokohama)..... SATURDAY, April 25, at noon.
Coptic (via Nagasaki, Kobe, Inland Sea and Yokohama)..... WEDNESDAY, May 13, at noon.

THE Steamship DORIC will be
despatched for SAN FRANCISCO,
via NAGASAKI, KOBE, INLAND SEA
and YOKOHAMA, on WEDNESDAY,
the 8th April, at Noon, connection being
made at Yokohama with Steamers from
Shanghai.
Steamers of this line pass through the
INLAND SEA OF JAPAN and call at
HONOLULU, and passengers are allowed to
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Through Passengers Tickets granted to
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Special rates (first class only) are granted to
Missionaries, members of the Naval,
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Passengers who have paid full fare, re-
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J. S. VAN BUREN,
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Hongkong, March 21, 1896. 549

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J. S. VAN BUREN,
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